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High Standards for FBI

Chicago Daily News Service

Don't ever expect to see a very ugly FBI man.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover says FBI agents are, broadly speaking, "salesmen" who must win the confidence of everyone from business tycoons to dock wallopers.

Qualifications for FBI men were discussed by the agency's longtime director during hearings before a House Appropriations subcommittee earlier this year.

"I insist appointees be above average in intelligence and reputation, of good character, and be above average in personal appearance," Hoover said.

A spokesman for the FBI said men applying for agents' jobs must be over 25 and go through a rugged physical examination that weeds out the obese. As for personal appearance, the spokesman added there was no stereotype.